



**ARIZONA READY EDUCATION COUNCIL  
GRADUATION/DROPOUT PREVENTION TASKFORCE**

**February 21, 2012 @ 3:00 p.m.**

**Valley of the Sun United Way**

**1515 East Osborn Road**

**Phoenix, AZ 85014**

**AGENDA**

*The Arizona Ready Education Council (Council) Graduation/Dropout Prevention Taskforce will discuss and may take action on the following matters. Members will attend either in person or by telephone conference call. Public comment will be taken. The public will be allotted three minutes each to address the Taskforce during the Call to the Public section of the agenda.*

**Meeting Outcomes:**

- Identified mission, goals and anticipated outcomes of Taskforce
- Identified structure/process for developing Recommendations
- Understanding of Arizona graduation/dropout data
- Awareness of Vehicles for Change

**Vision: By 2020, Arizona will be home to the best students and the best schools in the nation.**

**Mission: To monitor progress towards Arizona's rigorous education goals and determine if reform strategies are improving student learning, and to ensure the fidelity of implementation of Arizona Ready.**

**Goals:**

- Increase the percentage of third graders meeting state reading standards to 94% in 2020 from 70% in 2010;
- Increase the percentage of eighth graders achieving at or above basic on the National Assessment of Education Programs (NAEP) to 85% in 2020 from 67% in math and 68% in reading in 2010;
- Raise the high school graduation rate to 93% in 2020 from 73% in 2010; and
- Double the number of students receiving baccalaureate degrees to 36,000 per year.

**1. Call to Order, Welcome, & Introductions**

**Merl Waschler  
Debra Raeder-Gay**

**2. Discussion: Identify goals, mission & anticipated outcomes**

- Charge of the Taskforce
- Begin to identify areas of focus
  - What changes need to occur
  - What barriers need to be removed
- Identify process for accomplishing work

**Debra Raeder-Gay  
Merl Waschler**

**3. Update & Discussion: Review of Graduation/Dropout Data**

- Definition of Grad/Dropout Rate
  - Review Grad Rate/Dropout Data
- Review Arizona Ready Report Card
- Review Graduation Rate Calculator

**Kerry McConnell**

**Kerry McConnell  
Dr. Joe O'Reilly**

**4. Review & Discussion: Vehicles for Change**

- Career & Technical Education
- STEM
- The Business Community

**Mark Hamilton  
Darcy Renfro  
Mark Dobbins**

**5. Council Comments & Next steps**

- Meeting management
- Meeting Schedule
- Next Steps

**Debra Raeder-Gay  
Merl Waschler  
Taskforce Members**

**6. Call to the Public**

**Merl Waschler**

**7. Adjourn**

**Merl Waschler**

*Pursuant to Title II of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Office of the Governor does not discriminate on the basis of a disability regarding admission to public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Debra Raeder-Gay, 602-542-1442. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.*

## Arizona Ready Education Council

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GRADUATION/DROPOUT PREVENTION TASKFORCE MEMBERSHIP LIST	
1.	<b>Merl Waschler</b> , President & CEO Valley of the Sun United Way (Council member)
2.	<b>Dr. Jim Zaharis</b> , Vice President, Education Greater Phoenix Leadership (Council member)
3.	<b>Diane McCarthy</b> , Director of Business Partnerships & Public Policy WESTMEC (Council member)
4.	<b>Pearl Esau</b> , Executive Director Expect More Arizona (Council member)
5.	<b>Amanda McAdams</b> , Teacher (Council member)
6.	<b>Darcy Renfro</b> Vice President and Director STEM Initiatives, Science Foundation AZ
7.	<b>Carolyn Warner</b> , Co-Chair Arizona Skills Standards Commission
8.	<b>Dr. Amy Schlessman</b> , President Rose Management Group & Rose Academies
9.	<b>Rhian Allvin</b> , Executive Director First Things First
1.	<b>Dr. Kent Scribner</b> , Superintendent Phoenix Union High School District
11.	<b>Mark Dobbins</b> , Chair Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry
12.	<b>Cathleen Barton</b> , US/SW Education Manager Intel Corporation
13.	<b>Marv Lamer</b> or designee, Associate Superintendent, Highly Effective Schools Arizona Department of Education
14.	Invited but unconfirmed

## Arizona Ready Education Council

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### High School Graduation / Dropout Prevention Taskforce Proposed Structure/Process for Developing Recommendations

1. **Level Setting**
  - a. Review & develop overall expectations for the taskforce
  - b. Review Arizona Ready Goals
  - c. Identify process to develop recommendations to the Council
  - d. Establish a working timeline
2. **Data Review - data sharing and processing**
  - a. Share data via email so that it can be reviewed prior to taskforce meetings, and questions regarding the data are sent to staff prior to the next meeting/deadline
  - b. Determine relevant data to be reviewed to establish goals and strategies such as:
    - Additional students per year needed to graduate to achieve the graduation goal
    - Disaggregated report card data/appropriate metrics to identify achievement gaps
    - The state of Arizona's workforce and/or college readiness
    - Available longitudinal data that connects school readiness, K-8 performance, high school AIMS and high school graduation rates
    - Inventory of relevant evidence-based strategies, (policy and program) known to improve student performance (a best practice review)
    - Inventory of local strategies known to improve student performance with the greatest potential for statewide implementation, e.g. cost and funding sources
    - Major education reform efforts/strategies for the state
    - Challenges and barriers to the above policies and programs
3. **Establishing target populations and/or areas of focus**
  - a. Identify areas of focus e.g. key target populations and/or specific strategies - policy/program/ evidence-based practices, and/or some other combination
4. **Establish Work groups to recommend 2 – 3 policy and/or program goals and objectives**
  - a. Work groups will synthesize data, research strategies and draft recommendations that address the agreed upon focus areas
  - b. Use taskforce goals and objectives and initial data review as a foundation to establish 2 – 3 SMART (specific, masurable, actionable, relevant and time-bound) goals for area(s) of focus. The SMART goals should take into consideration:
    - Both preparedness and intervention along the P-20 education to career pipeline
    - The ability to engage multiple sectors to adopt and achieve the goal
    - Alignment to existing goals and strategies
  - c. Identify strategies, and to the extent possible, tactics for achieving the goals, including:
    - a. A description of the strategy/tactic and why it was chosen
    - b. What target population will be addressed
    - c. If it is existing or new, if existing what strategic plan is it a part of
    - d. The expected measurable results and how they are tied to the SMART goals
    - e. Resources to sustain/scale/implement strategy
    - f. Barriers, opportunities and accelerators
    - g. Key next steps
    - d. Engage with other relevant stakeholders/partners/staff to complete the work

# Arizona Ready Educational Council

## Graduation/Dropout Prevention Taskforce

Drop Out & Recovery  
February 21, 2012

## Terms & Definitions

»» Who is a “dropout”?

## Dropout

### □ Arizona Dropout Rate

- Students who are enrolled in school at any time during the school year, but are not enrolled at the end of the school year and did not transfer, graduate, or die

### □ Federal Dropout Rate

- Percent of 16 – 24 year olds who are not enrolled in school and have not earned a high school credential

## Graduation

### □ Arizona Graduation Rate

- Students who graduate within 4 years of starting high school in Arizona

### □ Federal Completion Rate

- Individuals in a given age range who are not in high school and who have earned a high school diploma or an alternative credential, irrespective of when the credential was earned

## Current Statistics

»» What are the numbers?

### Arizona Statistics (Source: ADE)

#### □ Dropout Rate

Year	Dropout Rate
2007	4.2%
2008	3.6%
2009	2.9%
<b>2010</b>	<b>2.7%</b>

Race/Ethnicity	2010 DO Rate	2009 DO Rate	2008 DO Rate
Asian	0.9%	0.9%	1.3%
Black	3%	3%	3.7%
Hispanic	3.4%	3.6%	4.3%
Native American	6.8%	6.7%	8.2%
White	1.7%	2%	2.4%

## Arizona Statistics (Source: ADE)

### □ Graduation Rate

Year	Graduation Rate
2006	69.9%
2007	73.4%
2008	74.9%
<b>2009</b>	<b>76.1%</b>

Race/Ethnicity	2009 G Rate	2008 G Rate	2007 G Rate
Asian	88.1%	87.4%	85.5%
Black	72.6%	72.7%	72.3%
Hispanic	68.6%	66.6%	64.7%
Native American	62.9%	59.8%	55.0%
White	83.2%	82.5%	81.3%

## Federal Statistics

- Nationwide in 2009, dropout rate was 8.1% and completion rate was 89.8%



## Who are we missing?

- Arizona graduation rate (76.1%) and dropout rate (2.9%) for 2009 do not add up to 100%, so where are those missing individuals?
- Graduation rate and dropout rate do not include those students who graduate from high school outside of the 4 year completion window or receive a GED!

## High School Dropouts...

- Have lower median incomes

- Median Income for US Adults (age 18 - 67)

No HS Diploma	HS Diploma/GED
\$25,000	\$43,000

- Poor health outcomes

- Selected Health Statistics for US Adults (age 25 and over)

Outcome	No HS Diploma	HS Diploma/GED
Heart Disease (Any)	14.4%	12.8%
Diabetes	15.1%	11%

- Cost society

- Average dropout costs society \$209,000 (2004 statistic) from lower tax contributions, dependence on Medicaid and Medicare, higher rates of criminal activity, and dependence on welfare.

## Causes

»» What leads to drop out?

### Why don't students finish school?

#### □ Personal Reasons

- Not motivated/inspired to work hard (69%)
- Classes are not interesting (47%)
- Had to get a job to make money (32%)
- Became a parent (26%)
- Had to care for a family member (22%)

#### □ Academic Reasons

- Couldn't keep up with schoolwork (30%)
- Missed too many days of school (43%)
- Started high school poorly prepared by earlier schooling (45%)

## What makes students return to school?

- Believe that graduating from high school is important to success in life (81%)
- If they could relive the experience, 74% would stay in school
- 76% would re-enroll in a program for adults their age
- Not having a diploma makes it hard to find a job (47%)

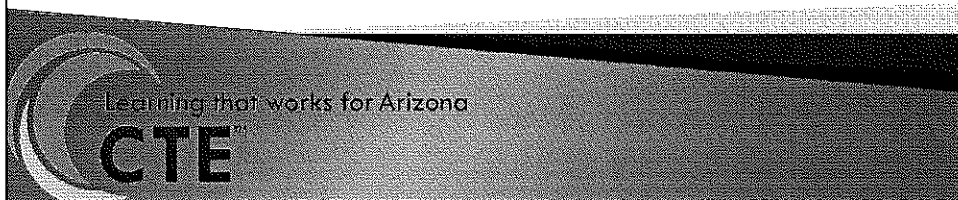


Questions?

# Career and Technical Education

## Mark Hamilton

Deputy Associate Superintendent  
Career and Technical Education  
Arizona Department of Education  
[mark.hamilton@azed.gov](mailto:mark.hamilton@azed.gov)



## Mark Hamilton's work bio

- 25 year CTE veteran
- Secondary faculty (Yuma, Scottsdale and EVIT)
- Post secondary adjunct faculty (NAU)
- District CTE Administrator (Gilbert)
- State Skills USA Director
- State Supervisor Industrial Education
- Industry – Sales, Manufacturers  
Representative, Construction, Purchasing  
Agent, Self Employed



## CTE Overview

### Purposes

- Provide a first chance career training option for youthful students to get appropriate education and employment in a niche of personal/professional interest.
- Develop Programs of Study reinforcing the reality of lifelong learning highlighting pathways to improve personal productivity.



## CTE Secondary Results

- **CTE Students are Engaged and find Relevance**
- **AZ CTE Graduation rates from high school – 98%**
- **CTE graduate Placement rates – 77% (2010 grads)**
- **CTE college credits earned prior to high school graduation – 12,710.25 during 2011**
- **CTE secondary participation grades 9 – 12  
82,650/317,026**

October 2011 data



## CTE Postsecondary Results

- Represents initial community college data  
these results will continue to improve with  
practice
- Technical Skill Attainment – 92.7%
- Credential, Certificate or Degree – 8359/21609
- Retention or University Transfer – 67.1%
- Placement 11,165/23,591



## CTE System Accountability

- Technical Skills Assessments – 49/71  
technical program areas
- Arizona Skills Commission
- Workplace Employability Skills Development
- Programs of Study
- Community Colleges using Technical Skills  
Assessments
- Workforce Investment – One Stop  
Assessments



## CTE Strategic Developments

### ▣ Interagency Collaborations and Partners

- Arizona Commerce Authority
  - ▣ Sector Strategies and Apprenticeship Office
- Department of Economic Security
  - ▣ One Stop Centers
  - ▣ Workforce Investment Boards
- U of A Workforce Education Development Office
- Governor's Council on Workforce Policy
- ADE Adult Education Unit



## Questions?

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